

Application # 09/436,432
DRAFT Amendment Dated: January 24, 2006
In response to phone of January 12, 2006

I. IN THE CLAIMS

3. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

II. [DRAFT] LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (original) A method of transmitting a video stream of images from a source device to a receiving device comprising the steps of:
 - a) transmitting the video stream of images in a first format to the receiving device;
 - b) receiving a request for an enhanced version of a marked portion of the video stream of images from the receiving device; and
 - c) transmitting the marked portion of the video stream of images in a second format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.
2. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of storing the original video stream of images at the receiving device.
3. (original) The method as claimed in claim 2 further comprising the step of storing the marked portion of the video stream of images to replace a corresponding portion of the original video stream of images.
4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of generating the video stream of images and transmitting the video stream of images to a storage device.
5. (original) The method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the step of generating is performed by a medical test device which is one of the group of an ultrasound, sonogram and echocardiogram device.

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6. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the video stream of images at the receiving device.
7. (original) The method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising the step of marking the marked portion of the video stream of images at the receiving device.
8. (original) The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the step of displaying includes a fast-forward and rewind function.
9. (original) The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the step of transmitting the video stream of images and the step of displaying are performed simultaneously such that a received portion of the video stream of images is displayed while a remaining portion of the video stream of images is transmitted.
10. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of adding annotations to the video stream of images.
11. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising the step of determining if a user views a particular image within the video stream of images for a predetermined period of time and automatically transmitting the particular image in the second format.
12. (original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein if the request for an enhanced version is received while the step of transmitting the video stream of images is being performed, then the step of transmitting the video stream of images is paused while the step of transmitting the marked portion is performed, and resumed once the step of transmitting the marked portion is completed.
13. (original) A transmitting device for transmitting a video stream of images to a receiving device comprising:

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- a) a storage device configured for receiving and storing a stream of images; and
 - b) a controller coupled to the storage device and configured for coupling to the receiving device for controlling transmission of the stream of images from the storage device to the receiving device, wherein the stream of images are transmitted to the receiving device in a first format and then a requested portion of the stream of images are transmitted to the receiving device in a second format, and further wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.
14. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 13 further comprising a source device coupled to the storage device for generating the stream of images and transmitting the stream of images to the storage device.
15. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 14 wherein the source device is a medical test device which is one of an ultrasound, a sonogram and an echocardiogram.
16. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 14 further comprising a network interface circuit coupled to the storage device and to the controller for communicating with the receiving device over a network.
17. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 16 wherein the receiving device includes a display for displaying the stream of images and an input device for marking the requested portion of the stream of images.
18. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 17 wherein the network is an Internet Protocol network.

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19. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 17 wherein received frames within the stream of images are displayed at the receiving device while a remaining portion of the stream of images is transmitted.
20. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 17 wherein the receiving device further includes a received storage device for storing the stream of images.
21. (original) The transmitting device as claimed in claim 20 wherein the requested portion of the stream of images is stored in the second format and a remaining portion of the stream of images is stored in the first format at the received storage device.
22. (original) A system for transmitting a video stream of images from a source device to a receiving device comprising:
- a) a source device for generating the video stream of images;
 - b) a transmitting device coupled to the source device to receive and store the video stream of images; and
 - c) a receiving device coupled to the transmitting device to receive the video stream of images in a first format, display the video stream of images for a user to mark one or more sections of interest, transmit a request for an enhanced version of the sections of interest and receive from the transmitting device the sections of interest within the video stream of images in a second format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.
23. (original) The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the source device is a medical test device which is one of an ultrasound, a sonogram and an echocardiogram.
24. (original) The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the receiving device is coupled to the transmitting device through a network.

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25. (original) The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein the receiving device includes a display for displaying the stream of images and an input device for marking the requested portion of the stream of images.
26. (original) The system as claimed in claim 25 where in the receiving device further includes a received storage device for storing the video stream of images.
27. (original) The system as claimed in claim 26 wherein the sections of interest within the video stream of images are stored in the second format and a remaining portion of the video stream of images is stored in the first format at the received storage device.
28. (original) The system as claimed in claim 22 wherein received frames within the video stream of images are displayed at the receiving device while a remaining portion of the video stream of images is transmitted.
29. (original) A method of transmitting a video stream of images from a source to a receiving device for display and storage at the receiving device comprising the steps of:
- a) transmitting the video stream of images in a first format to the receiving device;
 - b) displaying the video stream of images in the first format at the receiving device, allowing a user to mark sections of interest within the video stream of images; and
 - c) transmitting the sections of interest to the receiving device in a second format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.
30. (original) The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising the step of displaying the sections of interest in the second format at the receiving device.

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31. (original) The method as claimed in claim 30 further comprising the step of storing the sections of interest in the second format and a remaining portion of the video stream of images in the first format at the receiving device.
32. (original) The method as claimed in claim 31 wherein the step of transmitting the video stream of images and the step of displaying the video stream of images in the first format are performed simultaneously, such that a received portion of the video stream of images is displayed while a remaining portion of the video stream of images is transmitted.
33. (original) The method as claimed in claim 32 wherein the step of displaying includes a fast-forward and rewind function.
34. (original) The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising the step of generating the video stream of images and transmitting the video stream of images to the source device.
35. (original) The method as claimed in claim 34 wherein the step of generating is performed by a medical test device which is one of a group of an ultrasound, sonogram and echocardiogram device.
36. (new) A method of transmitting a video stream of images over a network from a first location to a second location in a first digitally compressed format and then retransmitting, based on one or more actions of a user at the second location, at least a portion of the video stream of images in a higher quality second digitally compressed format, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) generating a plurality of images at a video source device at the first location;

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- b) transferring the plurality of images from the video source device to a transmitting device in an original video format as a stream of video images,
- c) saving the plurality of images from the video source device on the transmitting device,
- d) converting the stream of video images from the original video format to the first digitally compressed format as each image is received from the video source device at the transmitting device,

wherein the first digitally compressed format is a storage-efficient and transmission-efficient format having lower quality than the second digitally compressed format,

wherein the frames of the video stream in the first digitally compressed format contain significantly less information than the second digitally compressed format;
- e) transmitting the video stream of images in the first digitally compressed format over a computer network from the transmitting device to the receiving device at the second location;
- f) saving the video stream of images in the first digitally compressed format on the receiving device at the second location;
- g) decompressing the video stream of images in the first digitally compressed format at the receiving device,
- h) displaying the decompressed video stream of images on a display device to a user at the second location as the video stream of images in the first digitally compressed format is being received at the second location,

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- i) marking a portion of the displayed stream of video images at the second location based on one or more actions of the user,
- j) returning a request over the computer network from the receiving device to the transmitting device for an enhanced version of a marked portion of the video stream of images;
- k) processing, at the transmitting device, the request for an enhanced version of the marked portion of the video stream of images to determine a subset of images from the saved stream of video images,
- l) converting at least the subset of images to the enhanced second digitally compressed format;
wherein the second digitally compressed format is a less storage-efficient and less transmission-efficient format having higher quality than the first digitally compressed format,
wherein the frames of the video stream in the second digitally compressed format contain significantly more information than the first digitally compressed format,
and
wherein the frames of the video stream in the second digital compressed format contain substantially the same quality of information contained in the saved video stream of images;
- m) transmitting the subset of images in the enhanced second digitally compressed format, corresponding to the marked portion of the video stream of images, over a computer network from the transmitting device to the receiving device at the second location;

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- n) saving the subset of images in the second digitally compressed format on the receiving device at the second location;
- o) decompressing the subset of images in the second digitally compressed format at the receiving device; and
- p) displaying the decompressed subset of images in an enhanced decompressed quality on a display device to a user at the second location while the video stream of images in the first digitally compressed format continues to be received at the second location;

wherein the first location is distinct and remote from the second location, whereby the user at second location views a low quality version of the stream of video images while they are being transmitted, a portion of the displayed video is marked, the marked portion is retransmitted and displayed in higher quality, and the user views the retransmitted portion in higher quality while transmission of the low quality stream of video images continues.

- 37. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the subset of images in second digitally compressed format received at the second location replaces the corresponding portion of the saved stream of video images in the second digitally compressed format on the receiving device.
- 38. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the transmitting device is a server in a third location distinct and remote from each of the first and second locations.
- 39. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the step of marking a portion of the displayed stream of video images at the second location is based on the user actions of:
 - i) marking a starting image frame;

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- ii) marking a ending image frame; and
- iii) selecting the enhance function;

whereby the user explicitly marks and requests the portion to be retransmitted.

40. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the step of marking a portion of the displayed stream of video images at the second location is based on the user actions of:

- i) rewinding the displayed stream of video images; and
- ii) viewing for a predetermined period of time a previously displayed portion of the stream of video images;

wherein the request is implied by the actions of the users,

whereby the user implicitly marks and requests the portion to be retransmitted.

41. (new) A method of transmitting a video stream of images from a source device via a transmitting device to a receiving device comprising the steps of:

- a) receiving at the transmitting device the video stream of images from the source device;
- b) transmitting the video stream of images in a first format from the transmitting device to the receiving device;
- c) receiving at the transmitting device a request from the receiving device for an enhanced version of a marked portion of the video stream of images; and
- d) transmitting the marked portion of the video stream of images in a second format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.

42. (new) A transmitting device for transmitting a video stream of images to a receiving device comprising:

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- a) a storage device configured for receiving and storing a stream of images from a source device; and
 - b) a controller coupled to the storage device and configured for coupling to the receiving device for controlling transmission of the stream of images from the storage device to the receiving device, wherein the stream of images are transmitted to the receiving device in a first format and then, upon receipt of a request from the receiving device, a requested portion of the stream of images are transmitted to the receiving device in a second format, and further wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.
43. (new) A system for transmitting a video stream of images from a source device to a receiving device comprising:
- a) a source device for generating the video stream of images;
 - b) a transmitting device coupled to the source device to receive and store the video stream of images; and
 - c) a receiving device coupled to the transmitting device to receive the video stream of images in a first format, display the video stream of images for a user to mark one or more sections of interest, transmit a request for an enhanced version of the sections of interest and receive from the transmitting device the sections of interest within the video stream of images in a second format, wherein the second format represents an enhanced version of the first format.
44. (new) A method of transmitting a video stream of images from a source device to a receiving device for display and storage at the receiving device comprising the steps of:

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- a) transferring the stream of images from the source device to the transmitting device which is separate and distinct from the source device,
- b) transmitting the video stream of images in a lower quality first format from the transmitting to the receiving device;
- c) displaying the video stream of images in the first format on a display at the receiving device,
- d) allowing a user to mark sections of interest within the displayed video stream of images via a user interface at the receiving device; and
- e) transmitting the sections of interest from the transmitting device to the receiving device in a higher quality second format, wherein the second format represents an higher quality version of the corresponding sections of the video stream of images in the first format,

whereby the user views a low quality version of the video stream of images while they are being transmitted, sections of interest of the displayed video are marked, the marked sections of interest are retransmitted and displayed the higher quality format, and the user views the retransmitted portion in higher quality while transmission of the low quality video stream of images continues.